



Maryland Department of Transportation
The Secretary's Office

Martin O'Mailey
Governor

Anthony G. Brown
Lt. Governor

Beverley K. Swaim-Staley
Secretary

Harold M. Bartlett
Deputy Secretary

August 20, 2010

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary, United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) is committed to working in partnership with the Baltimore City Department of Transportation (Baltimore DOT) and other project stakeholders to advance the Westport Waterfront Transit-Oriented Development (TOD). We enthusiastically support the application being made by the City of Baltimore for a TIGER II Discretionary Grant. This grant will be used to significantly improve an existing multi-modal network of highway, road, light rail, bike and pedestrian improvements to support the redevelopment of vacant industrial property in a highly distressed area of Baltimore City.

MDOT, in partnership with local governments, has fourteen (14) TOD stations around Maryland in order to acknowledge the importance of these areas. Westport exemplifies the goals for designation in that it facilitates:

- Sensitive integration of compact, mixed-use, mixed-income development within the existing communities that increases residents' access to local job opportunities available by transit;
- Creation and preservation of a range of housing choices at TOD sites and surrounding communities, including housing affordable to low-income households; and,
- Integration of the principles of sustainability in development and redevelopment in TOD areas, including reuse of greyfield and brownfield sites, improved air, water and land management, and resource conservation.

As a designated TOD, Westport is one of our highest priorities for use in state transportation funds. We are in the process of confirming the amount and timing of our funding commitment for station improvements and attendant infrastructure in collaboration with the ongoing project development activities at the site.

We believe the Westport Waterfront TOD will have a catalytic effect on the region's economy, connect disadvantaged Marylanders to jobs, amenities and opportunities while at the same time creating a model for development that reverses the environmental degradation of a critical estuary along the Chesapeake Bay. I am sure you will agree that the Westport Waterfront TOD project not only meets the TIGER II program goals, but

embodies USDOT's vision for creating sustainable and livable communities that will make America economically competitive now and for the future.

The Honorable Ray LaHood
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We look forward to working with you to advance this exciting project. If you have questions or require additional information, please contact Mr. Christopher Patusky, MDOT Director of Real Estate, at 410-865-1236 or cpatusky@mdot.state.md.us. As always, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Beverley K. Swaim-Staley".

Beverley K. Swaim-Staley
Secretary

cc: Mr. Khalil A. Zaied, Director, Baltimore City Department of Transportation
Mr. Christopher Patusky, Director of Real Estate, Maryland Department of
Transportation